

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A compressible dosage form comprising an active cushioning component with a uniform distribution of active components throughout the cushioning component, wherein the active cushioning component is a bead, granule, particle or pellet and, wherein the active cushioning component comprises:
  - a) a placebo cushioning component comprising a highly-compactable filler, a highly water-absorbing material and water; and
  - b) active loaded particles; wherein the placebo cushioning component and active-loaded particles are admixed to form an admixture; and the admixture is freeze-dried to form the non-hygroscopic active cushioning component which yields active loaded particles which can withstand a compression force as high as 1000 kg during a tabletting process.
2. (Currently Amended) The compressible dosage form of claim 1, wherein the placebo cushioning component is a bead or particle and has a particle size ranging from about 20  $\mu\text{m}$  up to about 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
3. (Currently Amended) The compressible dosage form of claim 2, wherein the placebo cushioning component is a bead or particle and has a particle size ranging from about 20  $\mu\text{m}$  up to about 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
4. (Currently Amended) The compressible dosage form of claim 2, wherein the placebo cushioning component is a bead or particle and has a particle size ranging from about 20  $\mu\text{m}$  up to about 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
5. (Previously amended) The compressible dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active-loaded particles are present in an amount ranging from about 0.1% to about 97% by weight based on the total weight of the active cushioning component.
6. (Previously amended) The compressible dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active-loaded particles are present in an amount ranging from about 20% to about 90% by weight based on the total weight of the active cushioning component.
7. (Previously amended) The compressible dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active-loaded particles are present in an amount ranging from about 40% to about 75% by weight based on the total weight of the active cushioning component.

8. (Original) The compressible dosage form of claim 1, wherein the highly compactable filler is present in an amount ranging from about 5% to about 90% based on the combined weight of highly-water absorbing material and compactable filler.
9. (Original) The compressible dosage form of claim 8, wherein the highly compactable filler is present in an amount ranging from about 5% to about 80% based on the combined weight of highly-water absorbing material and compactable filler.
10. (Original) The compressible dosage form of claim 8, wherein the highly compactable filler is present in an amount ranging from about 5% to about 60% based on the combined weight of highly-water absorbing material and compactable filler.
11. (Original) A tablet comprising the compressible dosage form of claim 1.